ATTORNEY DOCKET No.: THIE.0009USA

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND APPOINT.



As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention (Design, if applicable) entitled RADIALLY EXPANDABLE VESSEL SUPPORT

the specification of which (check one)

ic specificat	ion of which (check one).			
	is attached hereto.			
	was filed onapplicable).	as Application Serial No.	, and was amended on	_ (if
	was filed on 22 May 2000 a Article 19 on		CT/EPO0/04658, and was amended under I	PCT
hereby state	that I have reviewed and under	stand the contents of the above-identified	specification including the claims as amended	d by

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with *Title 37*, *Code of Federal Regulations*, §1.56(a). I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under *Title 35*, *United States Code* §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which the priority is claimed.

PRIOR FOREIGN OR PCT APPLICATION(S)

Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	PRIORITY CLAIMED
PCT/WO00/71053	WIPO	3 August 1999	⊠ □ Yes No
DE 199 23 133.8	Germany	20 May 1999	□ ⊠ Yes No

I hereby claim the benefit under *Title 35*, *United States Code*, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating The United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of *Title 35*, *United States Code*, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in *Title 37*, *Code of Federal Regulations*, 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

APPLICATION NUMBER	Filing Date	STATUS (Patented, Pending or Abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine, or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: I (We) hereby appoint as my (our) attorneys, with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Stanley P. Fisher, Registration Number 24,344; and Juan Carlos A. Marquez, Registration Number 34,072; and

Send correspondence to: REED SMITH HAZEL & THOMAS LLP

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See following pages for additional joint inventors.

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